

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Annual Compliance Report, 2021

Docket No. ACR2021

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 17
AND NOTICE OF FILING UNDER SEAL

(Issued February 15, 2022)

To clarify the basis of information provided by the Postal Service in its 2021 *Annual Compliance Report* (ACR), filed December 29, 2021,¹ the Postal Service is requested to provide written responses to the following questions. Answers should be provided to the individual questions as soon as they are developed, but no later than February 22, 2022.

Flats: Mail Processing-Related Databases - Management Operating Data System (MODS) and In-Office Cost System (IOCS)

1. The Library Reference USPS-FY21-23 MODS Prescreened (LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened) dataset contains the variable labeled "siteid."² Similar MODS prescreened files in Library Reference 23 of previous ACRs do not contain the same variable "siteid" as the LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset.³ Rather, the Library Reference 23 MODS prescreened datasets of previous ACRs contain only the variable labeled "siteid2." See *id.*

¹ United States Postal Service FY 2021 *Annual Compliance Report*, December 29, 2021 (FY 2021 ACR).

² Library Reference USPS-FY21-23, December 29, 2021, folder "Programs," Excel file "mods2021prod_prescreen.xlsx" (LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened).

³ See, e.g., Docket No. ACR2020, Library Reference USPS-FY20-23, December 29, 2020, folder "Programs," Excel file "mods2020prod_prescreen.xlsx" (LR-23 2020 MODS Prescreened); Docket No. ACR2019, Library Reference USPS-FY19-23, December 27, 2019, folder "Programs," Excel file "mods2019prod_prescreen.xlsx" (LR-23 2019 MODS Prescreened).

- a. Please confirm that the LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset “siteid” variable values differ from previous ACRs Library Reference 23 MODS prescreened datasets that contain only the variable labeled “siteid2.”⁴
 - b. If question 1.a. is confirmed, please provide a key that would allow to link the LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset “siteid” variable values to the “siteid2” variable values used in Library Reference 23 MODS prescreened datasets of the previous ACRs. If question 1.a. is not confirmed, please explain the differences between the values in the LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset and the LR-23 2020 MODS Prescreened dataset.⁵
2. Please refer to the Response to CHIR No. 3, question 5.a., Table 2.⁶ Please provide a workbook showing how the numbers in Table 2 were derived. In your response, please include the SAS code showing the IOCS questions and values used to extract the IOCS activity data.
3. The Postal Service states that the IOCS Non-Cluster data fields for the area identifier (IOCS variable “F1”), the facility finance number (IOCS variable “F2”) and the “updated finance number” (IOCS variable “NewFN”) were recoded (masked).⁷
 - a. Please provide a crosswalk of the actual FY 2021 MODS finance number to the FY 2021 IOCS recoded finance number for that facility.
 - b. Please provide a crosswalk of the actual area identifier of the sampled facility to the FY 2021 IOCS recoded area identifier.

⁴ See LR-23 2020 MODS Prescreened dataset and LR-23 2019 MODS Prescreened dataset.

⁵ The LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset “siteid” values are not consecutive and contain more different values than the LR-23 2020 MODS Prescreened dataset “siteid2.” *Compare* LR-23 2021 MODS Prescreened dataset, *with* the LR-23 2020 MODS Prescreened dataset.

⁶ Responses of the United States Postal Service to Questions 1-6 of Chairman's Information Request No. 3, January 26, 2022 (Response to CHIR No. 3).

⁷ Library Reference USPS-FY21-37, December 29, 2021, PDF file “USPS-FY21-37_IOCS_Preface.pdf,” at 20.

- c. Please provide a key that describes the actual area for the values in the area identifier variable “F1.”
 - d. Please describe the difference between the “F2” and “NewFN” variables. In your response, please explain why the finance number (in the “F2” variable) is “updated” (and may differ from the value in the “NewFN” variable).
 - e. Please provide an Excel file with the IOCS “site code” (IOCS variable “F226”) linked to the actual IOCS finance numbers.⁸ If the descriptors for the “F226” variable values differ from those provided in Docket No. RM2020-10, Response to CHIR No. 1, please provide an updated list.⁹
- 4. Please see attachment under seal.
 - 5. Please see attachment under seal.
 - 6. Please see attachment under seal.

By the Chairman.

Michael Kubayanda

⁸ See Docket No RM2020-10, Responses of the United States Postal Service to Questions 1-4 of Chairman’s Information Request No. 1, June 26, 2020, question 1.b. (Docket No. RM2020-10, Response to CHIR No. 1). The IOCS dataset in Library Reference USPS-FY21-NP21, December 29, 2021, folder “Data,” SAS dataset “PRCNPubNC21.sas7bdat,” does not contain the variable “F226” (site code).

⁹ Docket No. RM2020-10, Response to CHIR No. 1, question 1.b.